



GOF Activities

- Actions from July IUC 05
 - Data analysis workshop, E/PO, GI letter
- Archive status, software and high-level products summaries
- AAS special session
- GI interactions
 - Separate presentations on Archive & SW
- Publication statistics
- AO4 & beyond(?)



Data Analysis Workshop

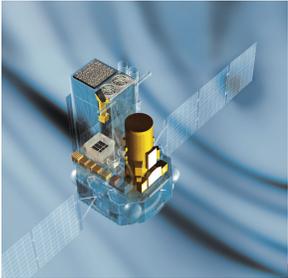
- Two day workshop, held at GSFC in November 2005
- 15 attendees
 - Experience spanned green students->decadal veterans)
- ISDC participation
 - Two scientists
 - Also, benefited from evaluation of strengths/weaknesses of ISDC DAW ~ 2 weeks prior
- ~2/3 of time devoted to hands on





Data Analysis Workshop

- Consensus among attendees was positive
- Problems
 - GSFC computing & network security issues
 - next time use visitor center?
- Future workshops?
 - Follow ISDC schedule (~bi-annual)?
 - Follow-on, emphasizing specialized issues? Or repeat “beginner: forums?



AAS Special Session

- ~6 review talks
 - Nucleosynthesis, 511 keV map, XRBs, AGN(2), SGR+GRBS
- Well attended, positive consensus feedback
- AAS/HEAD session under negotiation
- Future AAS venues?
- Reminder: 6th INTEGRAL Workshop abstract deadline in 1 week



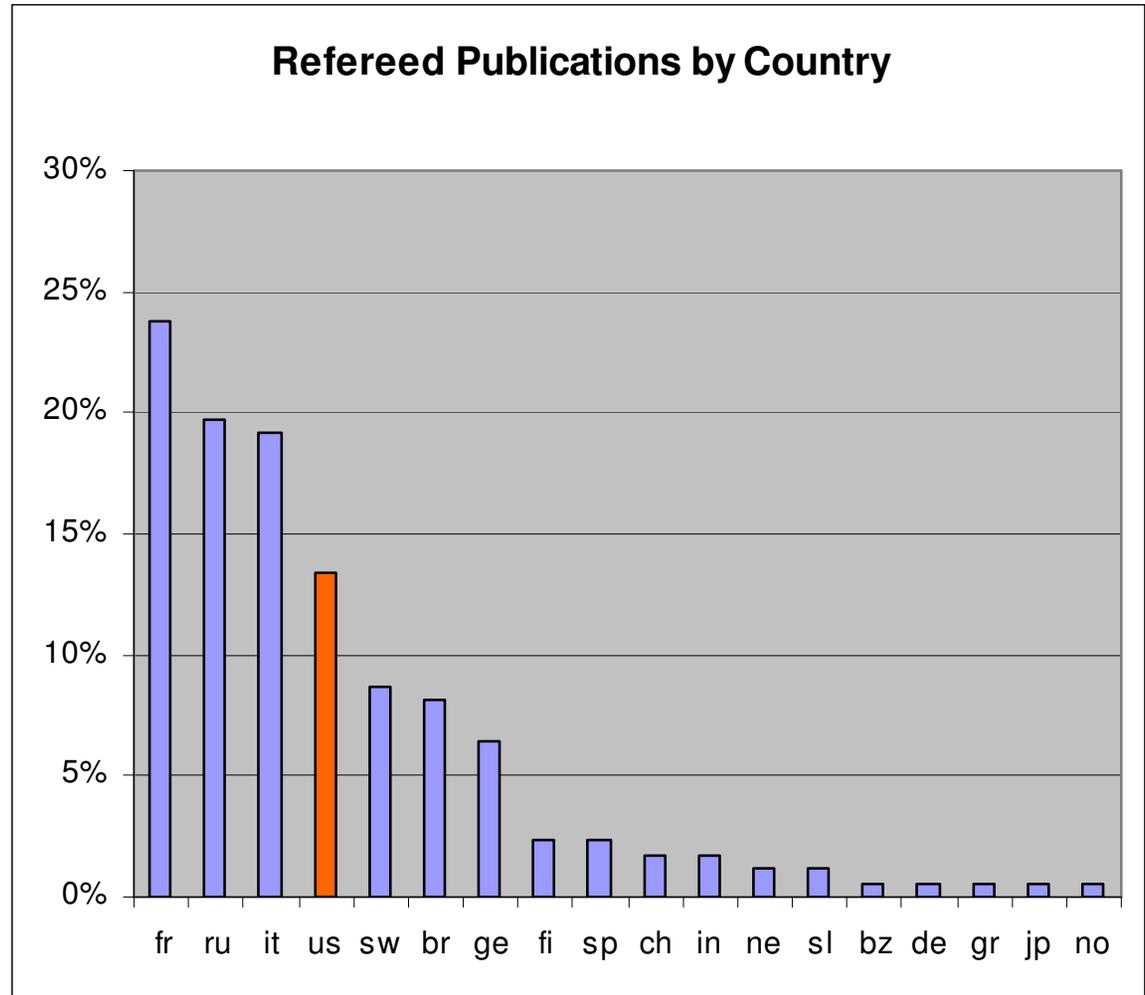
Publication Statistics

- Major source of criticism at SR04
- Progress being made (charts)
- Still some issues
 - instrument team & affiliates still predominant
 - Many publications not tied to GO program
 - No papers related to A/T
- Need to convey to SR committee that
 - Hard to compare absolute numbers to other λ disciplines (scales with volume and complexity of data)
 - US contributes to various European led efforts



Publication Statistics

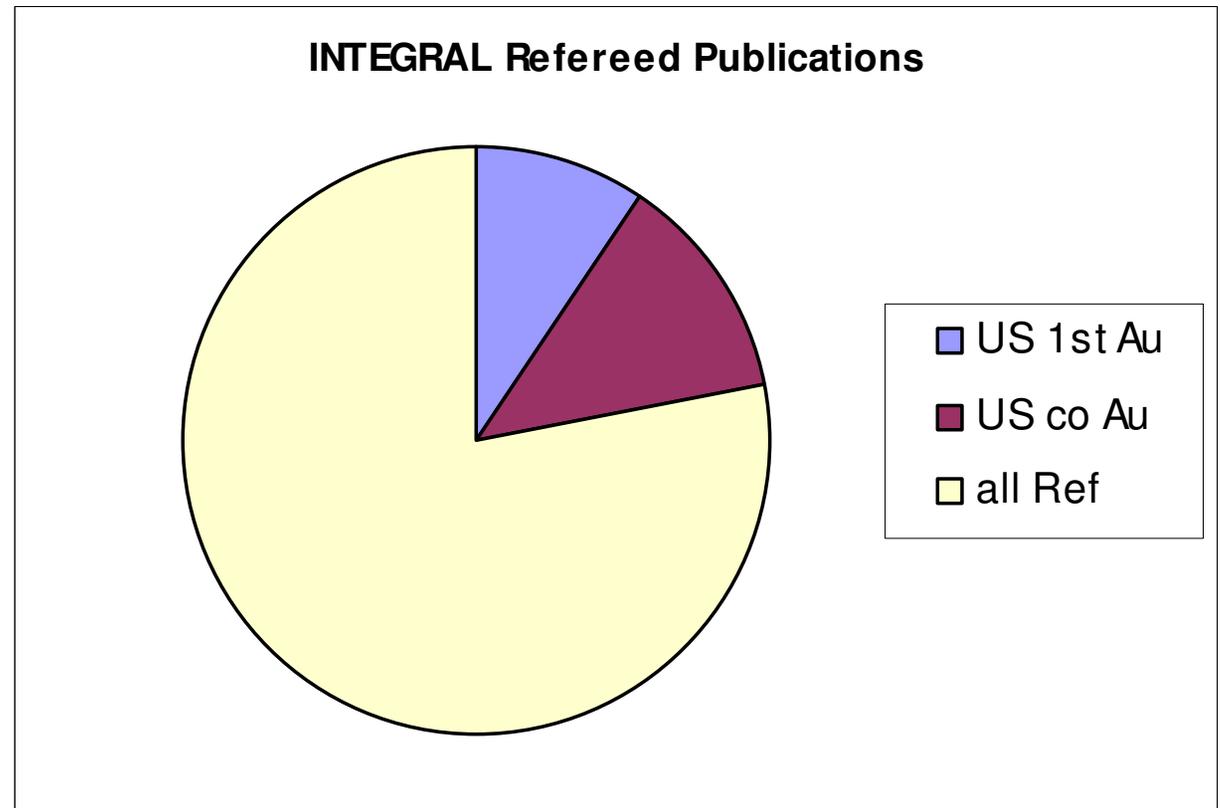
- How to spin?
- This chart shows the percentage of refereed journal articles as function on 1st author nationality
- Impressive, considering that Fr, It & Ru are biggest contributors





Publication Statistics

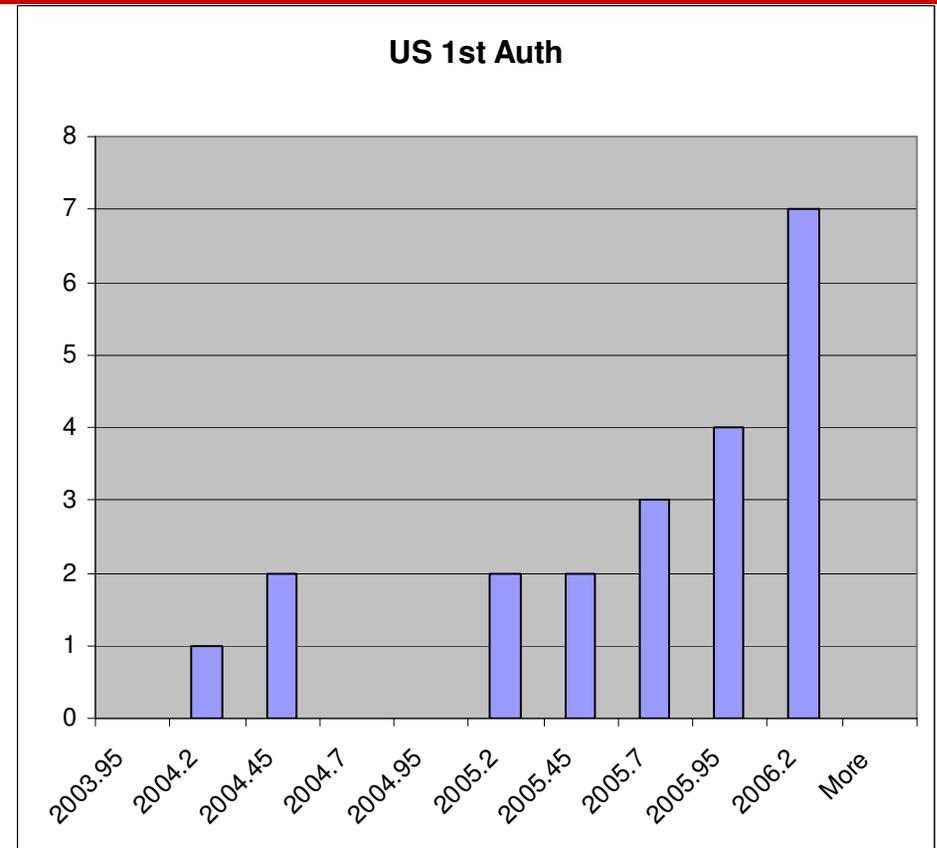
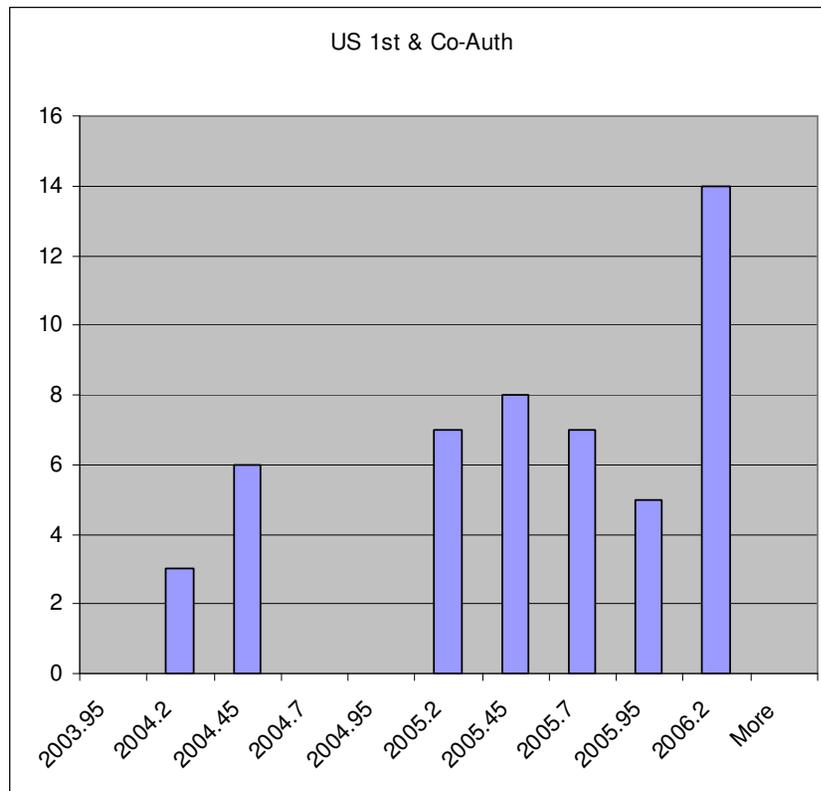
- About 25% of all journal articles include US authorship
- This is about the same fraction as accepted US proposals





Publication Statistics

It is also clear that the publication rate is increasing

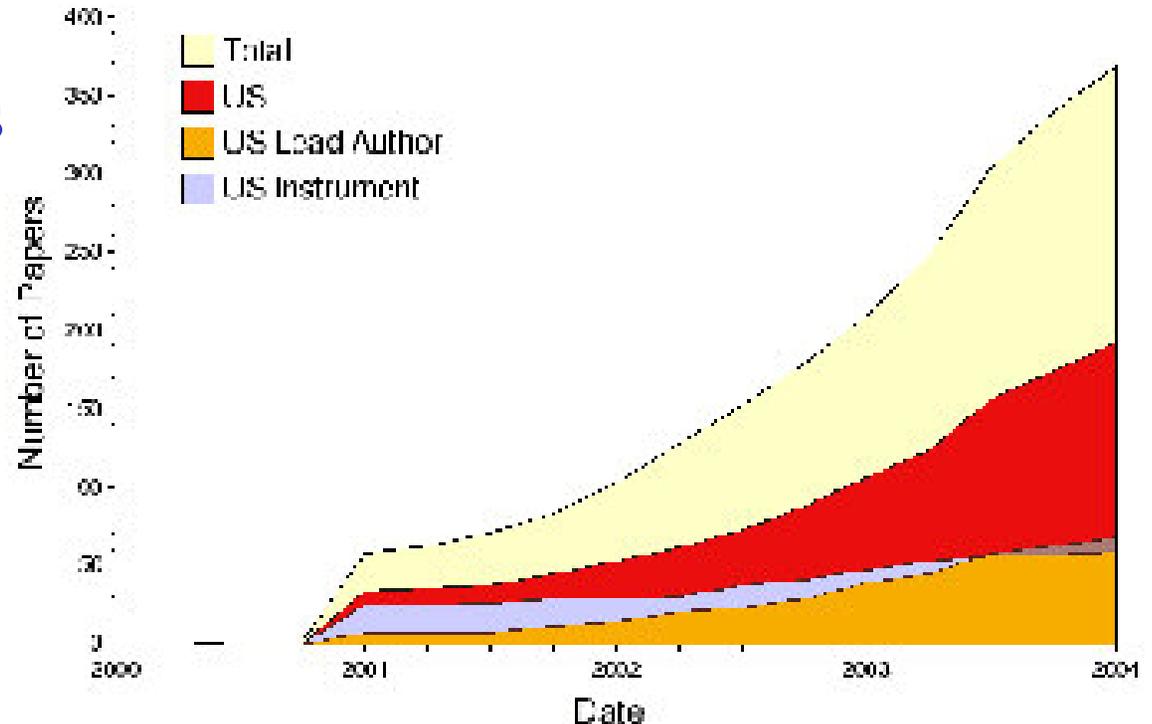


This be associated with milestones; archive opening, OSA5, workshop...



Publication Statistics

- Natural comparison is to XMM
- This chart is from XMM SR04 proposal
- US fraction is about $\frac{1}{4}$ of total (1st author), $\frac{1}{2}$ of total (1st+co-) author



XMM publication statistics
(2004)



Letter to Guest Investigators

- In response to action of July 05 IUC meeting, letter sent to all funded GIs
 - AO-1,2,3 + Archive/Theory
- 6 responses, a few useful ones

...

On behalf of the US INTEGRAL Users Committee, I urge you to complete as quickly as possible any ongoing INTEGRAL analysis and interpretation and include any scientifically interesting results in a journal article. While we recognize that science cannot always proceed within the framework of rigid bureaucratically-imposed schedules (such as the NASA annual funding cycles), we do feel compelled to make this request in view of the dire nature of the situation: Our overriding concern is to save the INTEGRAL GI program from termination. ...



GI Letter: Useful Feedback

1. INTEGRAL is a ground-breaking mission. There has never been anything quite like it before, so it does not have the long legacy of X-ray missions, with their well-developed software suites for analyzing the data almost effortlessly.
2. Despite the US involvement in the mission, the real knowledge of the instruments resides overseas. Traditionally, ESA-led missions seem to develop more slowly after launch than NASA ones, perhaps because ESA is not on a year-to-year budget cycle. INTEGRAL is approved through 2008 right now.
3. From a practical point of view, many US investigators who want to analyze their data find it more expedient to team with European PI teams. The result is that many papers are published with European first authors.
4. Many investigations are probably photon-starved, and extracting publishable results is a long-term effort in gamma-ray astronomy.



GI Letter: Less Useful Feedback

My co-workers keep telling me that analyzing INTEGRAL data is a headache.

Only the European insiders know well how to do this. No wonder they have published a lot more than US scientists.



AO-4 Program

- Plan to solicit budget proposals in tandem with ESA AO4 schedule
 - AO4 is 1-year program
 - Better phased with FY
 - Some “key projects” expected => may reduce US time allotment?
- Precise budget pool?
- As expected, no continuation of A/T program



AO-4 Program

- Schedule:
 - Send notice to HEASARC exploder at time of ESA AO release (mid March)
 - Soft language (as needed) on budget details
 - Solicit grant proposals at time of ESA selection (late April)
- Possible IUC issue:
 - If cuts are in order, how to proceed? (i.e. fewer proposals funded, or less per proposal)?



Education & Public Outreach

- GOF has established contract with HEASARC E/PO team, ~1/3 FTE
- Continuation of Creation of the Elements theme
- Specifically:
 - revision, reprinting and distribution of the “*What is Your Cosmic Connection to the Elements?*” poster and the accompanying teachers guide.
 - Participate in conferences to present this material.
 - E/PO personnel will also work with the National Park Service (via NASA’s Explorer Institute relationship) to develop this material for a general public audience.
- May be de-emphasis on E/PO with new NASA administration